



**CARIBOU-TARGHEE NATIONAL FOREST
PALISADES RANGER DISTRICT
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO**

2011

ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

MOODY C&H ALLOTMENT

CONTACT US PRIOR TO STOCKING THE ALLOTMENT

PERMIT INFORMATION

The permitted season of use begins **June 6th** and ends **October 10th**.

The authorized season of use for 2011 begins **June 11th** and ends **October 15th**.

The Permit read as follows:

Permittee

Theron McGarry

Permitted Number

436 head

All cattle must be your owned livestock and branded with your registered brands that are listed in your Term Grazing permit. The following brands are listed in your term grazing permit.

VO Left Rib

VO Left Hip

3O Left Rib



Left Hip

GRAZING SCHEDULE

With the completion of the new fences there is now a five pasture system replacing the previous three pasture system that had been in place for many years. The 2011 season will be the fifth year using the revised grazing system. In 2012 the unit rotation schedule will repeat the five year cycle.

The grazing rotation for the 2011 season is:

Sequence

Graze 1st

Graze 2nd

Graze 3rd

Graze 4th

Rest

Units

Sheep Creek

Sawmill

Fish Creek

Graham Hollow

Moody Riparian

ALLOTMENT MANAGEMENT

Due to range readiness cattle entered the allotment 20 days after the permitted on date last season. Cattle were allowed make up those days at the end of the season. The cattle left the allotment October 28th only 18 days after the permitted off date. Grazing on the allotment was generally good. Most units were within the standards for proper use. Most of the Fish Creek Unit was used to 45% in the uplands but there were some areas near Fish Creek Meadows where utilization was near 60%. We will discuss this at the spring meeting.

PROPER USE CRITERIA

These utilization guidelines apply to native and desirable nonnative vegetation as recorded at the end of the grazing period.

The following rates for forage utilization apply to the total amount of forage utilized. The use rates include wildlife grazing as well as domestic livestock. Once proper use of the forage is met the cattle will be moved to the next unit or off of the allotment.

Upland Forage Utilization

Vegetation type

Herbaceous vegetation including grasses

Shrubs

Percent Utilization

55%

35%

Riparian Forage Utilization and Stubble Height

- A. The 30% utilization levels of current year's growth for key woody plant species.
- B. A four inch (4") stubble height will be applied to key species along the Hydric Greenline (HGL) and a three inch (3") stubble height will be applied to key species in the Aquatic Influence Zones (AIZ).

Herdin

Cattle will be moved in a timely fashion so the prescribed use rates are not exceeded. Cattle that tend to congregate or persist to graze riparian areas are to be moved first. These moves need to start before proper use is met. The cattle that are content to graze the uplands and are on good feed will be moved

last. When proper use is met on the riparian areas all of the cattle need to be removed from the unit, even those that are staying in the uplands. The unit will be periodically checked to insure all cattle have been moved to the next unit. Round-up in the fall must start early enough so that all of the cattle are off the allotment at the end of your permitted season.

Salting

Salt will be used as a tool to improve livestock distribution. No salt will be placed within ¼ mile of water, or as far from water as practical. Also salt will not be placed next to roadways or forest system trails. Utilize areas where salt grounds will create the least impact on the land. Move salt blocks often or split the blocks in half so to lighten the impact on any one location. Under no circumstance place more than one salt block at one location. Manage your salting late in the season so as little salt as possible is left after the cattle leave the allotment.

Disposal of Dead Livestock

Dead livestock need to be moved at least 100 feet from system roads and trails, and water sources.

Range Improvements

All range improvements must be maintained and in operation prior to cattle entering the unit. We need to meet with you on the allotment to review range improvements that have deteriorated beyond a maintenance level. These improvements will be evaluated for their importance to management of the allotment and if deemed necessary will be scheduled for reconstruction. We have put in for a grant to reconstruct the Spori Canyon water development with you. We will discuss the reconstruction during our allotment meeting.

We appreciate your proactive approach pertaining to management of the allotment. The construction of the new fences and the maintenance and reconstruction of the existing fences is a costly effort but a necessity for proper management of the allotment.

Allotment Monitoring

During management of the allotment this summer we would like you to document dates and livestock numbers as you enter and exit the various units. Also stubble height should be recorded as the cattle leave the units and general remarks pertaining to management of the unit.

COORDINATION & COOPERATION

Motorized Access

The Palisades Ranger District is closed to cross country motorized travel. As a grazing permittee you may be issued a motorized travel permit to allow you to travel cross country by motor vehicle to maintain range improvements (fences and water developments). Please have the permit in your possession when traveling off of designated routes. This permit is good for no more than two trips per week. For situations where extended periods of cross-country travel are needed, such as fence construction, you will be issued a separate permit on a case-by-case basis.

Noxious Weeds

The Palisades Ranger District will again have a crew treating weeds on the District this summer. Please try to become more familiar with various species of noxious weeds so they can be identified and treated before they become a big problem on the allotment. Certain weed species can impact rangelands by invading and replacing usable forage species. You need to become familiar with the weeds on your allotment and report any new infestations of them to us. Musk thistle can be treated by cutting plants at the root prior to setting seed. Spending a little time treating an infestation that consists only of a few plants may prevent larger infestations from damaging your range in the future.

Any hay or straw entering the National Forest must be certified "Weed Free".

Wolf Management

You need to comply with the most current rules concerning wolf management. To receive the latest information on wolf management you can contact the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USF&WS). A news release with contact information from the USF&WS has been included in your grazing folder. Any problems with wolves will be reported to Wildlife Services as well as Palisades Ranger District as soon as possible.

INFORMATION

In addition to this grazing plan the folder contains: An allotment map, a page of general grazing instructions and an Actual Use Record. Please keep the record current with allotment information and return it to us at the end of the grazing season.

This Annual Operating Instruction Document is part of your Term Grazing Permit. If a situation develops that require changes to this plan contact the District Ranger and obtain approval prior initiating changes or deviating from these instructions. If you have any questions about the plan or the allotment in general, please contact us. The phone number for the Idaho Falls Office is 523-1412.

/s/ Theron Mc Garry

Permittee

3-02-2011

Date

/s/ Robbert Mickelsen

ROBBERT MICKELSEN
District Ranger

3-02-2011

Date